

Understanding PCR Policy in Indonesia: Between Healthy and Business Issues: Health and Political Literacy Study

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Abstract

Since the world's covid outbreak, each country has issued a response policy, including prevention and treatment. One of the preventions carried out by Indonesian youth is to carry out special tests with much attached policies and tell the stories of various parties. The authors believe that today's television is full of practices between health conflicts and conflicts of interest of the parties. To prove these assumptions and allegations, we conducted an instant data search on the application of health journals and also social crises in Indonesia, and we found that the data was then taken by a phenomenological approach and then analyzed with data coding, in-depth analysis, rigorous evaluation and also concluding passing through the data. Various high interpretations to obtain valid and accurate data in answering the problems of this study. Based on the available data, then the discussion we found that the understanding of the physical test, which is a government policy has found that the issue of pollution is a problem where we found several interests and conflicts that occurred so that until now it remains an unsolved problem. Hopefully, this data will be valuable input for efforts to improve and provide the first service to understand the meaning of the PCR test in Indonesia.

Keywords

test PCR; understanding;
pandemic; business and crisis.



I. Introduction

Indonesian government regulations to change the rules for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for domestic travel should not be information-based and inadequate (Suryawan et al., 2020). General health experts say testing may apply and should be applied if a positive case of Covid-19 is seen to complete the following contact because the inactivated virus in the vaccine will not cause the COVID-19 test result, either Antigen or RT-PCR, to be positive. If a person finds a positive COVID-19 test result after vaccination, it is because he or she has been exposed to the virus unknowingly. To date, the Government has changed guidelines such as several times, and what continues as of November 1 is that air companies are not currently expected to join PCR and antigen only assays (Bernal et al., 2021). The Government stressed that test prerequisites for sailors are a kind of hope for the possibility of transmission before, during, and after the trip. However, whatever the argument, the

Government still requires that PCR for airline travelers, airline businesses, and the travel industry is challenging to recover after the pandemic. Bali again becomes a foreign tourist when the Covid-19 cases in Indonesia continue to decline. To what extent will they say they are ready (Rahma & Arvianti, 2020). Sihombing (2020) state that Covid-19 pandemic caused everyone to behave beyond normal limits as usual. The outbreak of this virus has an impact especially on the economy of a nation and Globally (Ningrum, 2020). The problems posed by the Covid-19 pandemic which have become a global problem have the potential to trigger a new social order or reconstruction (Bara, 2021).

The multiplication number of Covid-19 in Indonesia is under one, is the pandemic indeed taken care of, and when would we be able to remove our veils? (Zainuddin, 2021). More individuals who were upset due to the changed guidelines were passengers. They neglected to fly from Jakarta to Palu, Central Sulawesi, last November 1 since they misjudged the movement rules for homegrown individuals utilizing air transportation. The guideline as the Circular Letter of the Minister of Transportation Number 93 of 2021 states that movement necessities for trips outside Java-Bali should show a negative PCR result with a most extreme example of 3 x 24 hours or an adverse consequence of a quick antigen test with the most outstanding example of 1 x 24 hours before a flight (World Health Organization, 2021). "Since Passengers read on the news that individuals going external Java-Bali might utilize antigen, they quickly tried for antigen. Besides, the center where people tried it affirmed it. They are sure who spoke for BBC News Indonesia. When passengers showed up at the air terminal, they filtered the Care Protect application because the outcomes were negative. In any case, it said passengers were not fit to fly. People asked the Task Force at the air terminal and afterward clarified that the guideline was departures from, for instance, from Makassar to Manado or Papua. In any case, not from Java and Bali." Because of this mix-up, a few different travelers dropped their flights (Wiratraman, 2020). In any case, he said he was fortunate because the boarding pass was not relinquished and could be rescheduled the following day.

Passengers are a bit upset because the rules issued by the Government regarding domestic travel are "unclear," so it is confusing and gives rise to many interpretations (Zelizer, 2021). Not to mention the mandatory PCR test, which was still valid at that time, was quite expensive. This PCR system is burdensome and embarrassing. So, the explanation must be clear and easy to understand. Not everyone can understand it well, depending on domestic travel rules. So far, the Government has at least four times changed the rules regarding the conditions for people to travel within the country (Liu et al., 2022). On October 18, for example, passengers using air, sea, and land transportation in the Java-Bali area must attach a negative result of a 2x24 hour PCR test even though they have been vaccinated twice. PCR testing applies for aircraft to 3x24 hours for airplane passengers entering or leaving the Java-Bali and inter-Java-Bali areas, while for land and sea transportation modes, it is allowed to attach negative antigen test results. The day after or October 28, the Government again changed regulations regarding the requirements for airplane passengers outside Java-Bali. Airplane passengers outside Java-Bali are allowed to use the rapid antigen test results. Then on November 1, the Government again changed the conditions for air travel in Java and Bali, namely that the PCR test is no longer required to board a plane and attach an antigen test (Kost, 2021).

Various arguments and questions came from members of parliament and business people asking the Government to pay close attention to the PCR testing policy as a condition for the assessment. According to him, the Government's policy towards the community, both using private and public transportation modes, which has recently been constantly changing, has created confusion. "This frankly makes people confused, upset, and upset. This is a back-

and-forth policy. Suppose any want to be firm, with careful consideration (Pusparini, 2020). It is known that the Government has replaced the PCR test three times, which is a policy requirement. The regulation starts from PCR tests for airplane passengers and ground and crossing users up to the period of transportation of passengers on international flights. In the latest policy, the Government finally revoked the PCR test as a condition of flying for those who have been fully vaccinated (Schermerhorn et al., 2022).

All business figures and members of the People's Legislative Assembly questioned the Government's policies in many regions, which are very difficult to get a laboratory if passengers have to do a PCR test when traveling within the country. So, it takes a long time for people far from these locations to get PCR results. "Well, this is what makes it difficult for the community. They estimate that this three-day application will be of little help because not all areas are as easy as Jakarta to get a PCR swab test (Lan et al., 2020). Some of the discussions that were presented were, first, evaluation of the handling of the pandemic Covid-19 in the health sector and third wave mitigation strategies, availability of drugs and medical devices, availability of vaccines and vaccinations, medical personnel and health workers, as well as affordability of access to testing and tracing for the community (Boyton & Altmann, 2021). Domestic travelers also complained about implementing the Covid-19 Vaccination Program and vaccination plans for children under 12. Finally, an explanation of the PCR and Antigen test policy for travel must be clear and acceptable by most Indonesian (Espenhain et al., 2021).

Firmansyah & Haryanto (2021) highlight the impurities in the Covid-19 sample - like the phenomenon of an iceberg and Pandora's box in their study from a legal and sociological perspective. They revealed allegations of links between public officials and the polymerase chain reaction or PCR business. Two weeks after the allegations were revealed, the PCR business controversy is still a topic of discussion, thus ignoring public ethics for the sake of the conflicting interests of public officials. There are at least two public officials who are suspected of having links. They are Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan and Minister of SOEs Erick Thohir. The company that runs the PCR business in five branches in Jakarta and its surroundings, namely PT Genomik Solidaritas Indonesia, is suspected of being linked to a company affiliated with Luhut and Erick (Sari, 2020). The PCR test is wrapped in the policy of implementing regional quarantine in anticipation of the spread of the coronavirus. This is when viewed from the point of view of Law no. 6 of 2018 concerning health quarantine. This is what underlies the lack of transparency in the implementation of tests and practices related to the issue of the Covid-19 pandemic.

State officials are affiliated through PT Toba Sejahtera and PT Toba Bumi Energi, which each own 242 shares of PT Genomik Solidaritas Indonesia worth hundreds of millions of rupiah (Nanda, 2021). Meanwhile, other state officials are affiliated through the Adaro Foundation, a non-profit organization under PT Adaro Energy Tbk, a company owned by a large family of state officials (Suaib et al., 2021).

The PCR business is known as a lucrative business amid a pandemic. The Civil Society Coalition for Health and Justice states that the circulation of money in this business reaches at least tens of trillions of rupiah (Orinaldi, 2020). The total potential profit earned is more than IDR 10 trillion. Government policies regarding the use and price of PCR are also suspected to be related to business interests. The Coalition, for example, suspects that the price drop is due to the PCR test kits that have already expired. In addition, the prices of PCR components and the reasons for their decline are considered closed, thereby raising suspicion of business interests (Effendy & Widianingtanti, 2020).

II. Research Methods

Next, the parts of this method will describe how we carried out a study that aims to understand whether television is a health issue or is this a mere business used to take advantage of profits (Maxwell, 2012). In order to get the answers that we have issued and what we feel, we have conducted a series of data studies, namely from data sources that were previously researched in various scientific publications on health and Covid-19 (Malagon-Maldonado, 2014). We study using a phenomenological approach where we look for as much data as possible, and we process it as much as possible so that our answers answer the questions. We did an online search on several applications, which we did through coding the interpretation evaluation data and drawing conclusions that we got answers to health and social studies (L. Haven & Van Grootel, 2019).

III. Discussion

3.1 Sadai Industrial Estate, Bangka Belitung Islands Province

Rundown of Indonesian Companies Playing PCR Business. Coming up next is a rundown of a few PCR specialist organizations and different Indonesian organizations and business people associated with them, as summed up from the different accompanying sources. These are evidence of our claim that the PCR test is indicated with business in the covid crisis. The following are the list of companies doing PCR project testing in Indonesia:

3.2 FASTLab

Indonesian organization FastLab gives various administrations to people in general. The accessible administrations are antigen swab test, PCR swab test, and home visit swab test. The FastLab network is spread across various regions, including Jakarta, Bandung, Bali, Medan, and Makassar. Revealing from Berita Satu (24/9/2021), FASTLab is a brand of PT. Inti Dharma Global Indo was established by Ir. Santoso Halim (Jiuhardi et al., 2021).

3.3 Quicktest

Quicktest is under PT Quicktest Laboratory Indonesia. This Indonesian organization offers assistance for people and gatherings during the pandemic. In the interim, this organization professions to use the most recent model of PCR innovation (Elavarasan & Pugazhendhi, 2020). The items offered are additionally professed to enjoy upper hands over different items. The benefit is in the precision of the test. Detailing from Detik (6/11/2021), the presence of Quicktest cannot be isolated from the figure of Irawati Muklas and Haekal Ansari as Medical Director who entered the wellbeing administration business under the name Quicktest. Id.vBumame Pharmacy is a notable Indonesian organization that gives PCR test administrations (Elavarasan & Pugazhendhi, 2020). Bummer states that it has a certified and guaranteed lab on its site. Bumame's administrations are spread across areas, from Greater Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Palembang, and Bali. Then, at that point, the administrations gave incorporated home help, corporate assistance, wedding bundles, and others.

3.4 GSI Lab

GSI Lab is under PT Genomics Solidaritas Indonesia (GSI). The Indonesian organization, GSI itself, is at the center of attention due to the supposed inclusion of various pastors in the PCR business. Cited from the authority site gsilab.id, GSI Lab is a social business drive that upholds the Government and the local area in speeding up the treatment of COVID-19 through quick and precise PCR testing (Uchenna, 2020). Revealing from Tempo

(5/11/2021), Chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) Arsjad Masjid is known to claim the more significant part stake in Genomics (GSI Lab) through the Indika Foundation under PT Indika Energy Tbk. Moreover, the Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan is recorded as the proprietor of GSI Lab shares through its subsidiaries utilizing PT Toba Sejahtera and PT Toba Bumi Energi. The name of the Minister of SOEs, Erick Thohir, was likewise utilized (Maghdid et al., 2021). The Adaro Foundation, connected to the Minister of SOEs, holds a 6% stake in GSI. Spokesman Erick denied this because he was not dynamic in business issues and the establishment.

3.5 Tes PCR between Business and Crisis Covid-19

The PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test as a mandatory travel requirement is still a hot topic of discussion (Beck et al., 2021). Changes in the cost of the test itself have also given rise to various perceptions in the community, such as the assumption that some take advantage of it. The PCR test was implemented to protect the Indonesian people from the transmission of the Covid-19 virus. In response to this, the Council of Professors of the Islamic University of Indonesia (UII) held a webinar entitled handling the Covid-19 Pandemic: PCR Test Controversy-Business. The Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Prof. Dr. Moh, delivered the key speech. Mahfud MD, S.H., S.U. and the Minister of State-Owned Enterprises of the Republic of Indonesia, Erick Thohir, B.A., M.B.A (Liow e al., 2020).

UII Chancellor, Prof. Fathul Wahid, S.T., M.Sc., Ph.D., said that time had become a luxury during this pandemic because all decisions must be taken quickly. In addition, the decision-making process involving the public interest is not always clear and transparent (Binnicker, 2020). This has made the public question their constitutional rights many things, including the PCR test. "Is it true that the price of the PCR test is that high," he said. Amid this situation, news emerged of allegations that government officials had ties to PCR business companies. In response to this, the public is divided. Some believe and some do not. Is there a business motivation behind handling this pandemic? Laurencin et al. (2020) hope that with this webinar, all general questions related to these allegations can be answered clearly so that the public can find out the truth.

Responding to this, Prof. Mahfud said that from the beginning, the Covid-19 pandemic began to enter Indonesia, when all elements of the population were still in a panic, even many parties were contradicting each other, some believed and did not believe in this Covid-19 virus. At that time, the Government took anticipatory actions, including issuing Presidential Decree no. 20 of 2020, which stipulates that Covid-19 is a non-natural disaster. "This Presidential Decree (Presidential Decree) was issued on March 31, 2020, and it is not too late," he said. After that, continued Prof. Mahfud, the Government issued a Government Regulation instead of Law no. 1 of 2020, which contains an increase in the budget for handling Covid-19. According to Prof. Mahfud, the law had previously regulated that the Government would violate the law if the budget deficit were more than 3%. Meanwhile, during this pandemic, it is predicted that the budget deficit will not only drop to 3%, but it is also even possible to go beyond that (Djalante et al., 2020).

"Why do you have to issue a Peru (Government Regulation), because if you wait for the approval of the DPR, it will take a long time. Because there are academic texts, levels I and II discussion take days. However, at that time, a protest arose because an article stipulated that people would not be prosecuted in good faith. Even though these provisions are already in Article 50 of the Criminal Code, the Law on Advocates, etc.," he explained. In the following anticipatory action, the Government makes a policy with PCR. The Government has formed a Committee for Combating Covid-19 and National Economic Recovery. Prof. Mahfud said

that during the early days of the pandemic, the Indonesian economy collapsed during those three months. There is a tremendous panic crisis, trying to get masks to meet the needs of the community and health workers. The Government also ordered all campuses to make drugs to overcome Covid-19 (Chairil, 2020).

On the other hand, the mask industry with cloth and batik masks has also grown, and companies are selling Covid-19 drugs that are then used to treat Covid-19 patients. In response to this, according to Prof. Mahfud, we should look at the law when it was issued to measure the law, not at present. "Anyone who criticizes must be ready to be criticized back. We must also be ready to receive comparative data from the Government," said Prof. Mahfud. Furthermore, Erick Tohir said that since the pandemic broke out in Indonesia, the Government has made every effort to serve the community. "We must embrace recovery and responsibility. Carry out all these activities with responsibility, both administratively, legally, and far from personal interests" (Soekiman et al., 2010).

The pandemic is a test and a lesson to make this nation more robust and more independent. The Government and society must unite and work together (Harari, 2020). Erick Tohir said that the international community had recognized Indonesia's efforts in tackling this pandemic. State-Owned Enterprises (BUMN) are encouraged with humanitarian awareness that they are late in contributing to the handling of the pandemic, which is not the primary task and function of the BUMN itself. Erick Tohir admitted that he represented SOEs and was also tasked with the Minister of Foreign Affairs to look for vaccines to China and England, then distribute them to the provinces in Indonesia. In addition, the Government has also built hospitals to deal with Covid-19, to establish PSBB policies, PPKM, and PCR laboratories (Ilyas, 2021). "The President emphasizes us not to get tired of serving the people. The Government inaugurated the Wisma Athlete Hospital. On March 27, 2020, the Government provided 73 hospitals in 18 provinces, and 50% of the hospitals were for Covid-19 patients. On June 12, 2020, the Government introduced an application to protect and protect, and on December 17, 2020, the Government brought in a vaccine, which, according to him, was connoted as a negative thing by the community. However, some things are currently up for grabs, one of which is the Sinovac vaccine (Krammer, 2020).

Not only that, but Erick said the Government was also accelerating the distribution of medicines for Covid-19 patients who underwent independent and integrated care. The Government also provides 18 PCR laboratories, where the PCR test is part of the Covid-19 tracing, the prices are also appropriate from the Financial and Development Supervisory Agency (BPKP), and in Indonesia, the prices are among the cheapest when compared to other countries. Erick Tohir further said that the PCR test policy for transportation users resulted from a limited meeting attended by the President, Vice President, Minister of Health, and Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs. They also formulated policies related to the Java-Bali Emergency PPKM. Moreover, this is already very transparent. "I cannot possibly arrange a limited meeting in order to get a policy that benefits me personally. We carry out the principle of cooperation with all parties to handle the pandemic with good operations.

3.6 PCR Business Potential during the Covid-19 Pandemic

The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test business is in the spotlight because the price is still considered expensive. In addition, the Government had required PCR tests as a flight requirement (Jeong et al., 2020). After receiving criticism, the Government changed the rules. Passengers vaccinated twice can use the antigen test; no need for PCR. The Government also lowered the price of the PCR test to IDR 275,000 for Java and Bali and IDR 300 thousand for outside Java and Bali. Deputy Head of BPKP for Political, Legal, Security, Human Development, and Cultural Affairs Iwan Taufiq Purwanto explained that the cost of PCR

could drop to IDR 275,000 and IDR 300 thousand because the prices of several components also fell. "There has been a decrease in the price of personal protective equipment, reagents, or ribonucleic acid (Bauchner et al., 2020).

Quoted from a report from Tempo magazine in the November 1, 2021 edition, the Head of the Diagnostic and Research Laboratory for Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Medicine, Andalas University, Andani Eka Putra, said that the actual price of the PCR test was not as high as the market price (Tom & Mina, 2020). Andani once calculated the cost of components when the swab test rate was around IDR. 1.5 million at the beginning of the pandemic. The capital issued at that time was only around IDR. 600 thousand. With a tariff of IDR 275,000 in Java and Bali, Andani said, at least the equipment owner will get IDR 60 thousand. Higher profits can be obtained if the reagents or PCR test kits come from China. "Many are profiting from the PCR business (Sheridan, 2020).

Many medical device importers are offering operational cooperation for the PCR business. A medical device entrepreneur confirmed this condition in the Central Jakarta area (Antonini et al., 2021). The entrepreneur said that the operational cooperation began last year. At that time, the supply of PCR machines or reagents began to increase. The importers also approach the owner of the clinic or laboratory to open a PCR test service without incurring high costs. No longer using European and American branded extraction machines, which are considered too expensive, importers provide machines from China at around IDR. 400 million. Health facilities bound by a contract must purchase a viral transport medium or VTM accompanied by reagents from the importer. VTM is a storage medium for nasal mucus specimens (Pino et al., 2021) throat of the patient to be tested in the laboratory. Usually, the entrepreneur said, by buying 25 thousand units of VTM, the extraction machine can be owned by laboratories and clinics.

With the VTM price of IDR. 60 thousand, the owner of the health facility can pay IDR directly. 1.5 billion (World Health Organization, 2021). Another option is to meet the target of a thousand patients being tested every month. They will receive a gross income of IDR 12.4 billion if they hold a PCR test for 25 thousand people at the cost of IDR 475 thousand. Indonesia Corruption Watch researcher, Wana Alamsyah, calculated that at least the profits of PCR service providers from October 2020 to August 2021 reached IDR 10.46 trillion. Wana said the figure did not include the profits earned by importers.

Moreover, the entrance fee for medical devices amid a pandemic is not taxed. "The profits are fantastic. The Director-General of Health Services at the Ministry of Health, Abdul Kadir, said that the evaluation of PCR prices was carried out together with BPKP through calculating the cost of taking and examining RT-PCR, consisting of components in the form of service/HR services, reagent components and consumables (Surianta, 2021).

IV. Conclusion

We repeat that this salary is aimed at understanding Indonesia's physical policies due to health reasons or business problems for state officials. Through a review of hundreds of recent journal publications on cockpit and PCR contents in Indonesia, we have obtained much scientific evidence supporting our study that Indonesia's physical policy is a business use during the health crisis, namely the pandemic and Covid-19. We believe that the exposure to this field has answered our study questions with a high level of validity. The following are essential points that we have collected from various sources, which we have studied with a phenomenological approach, namely getting as much data as possible, and we are peeling and analyzing tools to get answers, including that we found some lab test companies such as the first, Fast lab.

Next, we found out that the company whose name is quickest can also be sent where the laboratory tests are held. Then we found out that there was a GSI Lab. Then we also raised several reasons stating that television that day was a business project that took advantage of the economic crisis. We say that this is because this television is mandatory by the state for prospective passengers traveling within the country, and this is a lack of clarity and fast social decisions so that overlaps and leaks occur here and there with prices that are never stable between 1 airport and one airport other people, this signifies that extraordinary business interests have been exploited for the benefit of certain parties.

Furthermore, we also found that physical testing of water is a very profitable business for officials during the covid pandemic crisis. Through a series of studies, we found that there are some differences between the PCR centers in one place to another, there are differences, then there are differences in prices and also policies where this is very difficult for problems for the community so that symptoms and protests arise in various places below. Where today's description is experiencing prices and other terms, so, through the above, we can assure that today is full of all kinds of business practices that are used by a group of state officials who take advantage of the moment of opportunity to achieve maximum profit in the name of the health crisis. Hopefully, these findings will become input for the development of similar studies in the future.

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